

Docket No: 243352US2-SRD DIV  
Inventor: MASAHIRO OSHIKIRI ET AL.  
Filed: HERewith

**Amendments to the Specification**

Page 1, lines 2-5, please amend the existing title as follows:

~~BACKGROUND NOISE/SPEECH CLASSIFICATION METHOD,~~  
~~VOICED/UNVOICED CLASSIFICATION METHOD AND BACKGROUND NOISE~~  
~~DECODING METHOD, AND SPEECH ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS~~  
SPEECH ENCODING METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM

Page 112, lines 2-15, delete in their entirety and substitute therefore the following  
new Abstract of the Disclosure on the page attached hereto.